



**DATE:** February 16, 2007  
**TO:** Andrew T. Souza  
**FROM:** Rhonda Jorn, Public Affairs Officer  
**FOR:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**SUBJECT:** CITYWIDE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The *Citywide Weekly Report* highlights various activities throughout the City for the week. Consistent with our mission to ensure equal access to opportunity, education, and quality of life for every man, woman and child regardless of their race, religion, age or socio-economic status, this report will work to organize our weekly achievements so that we can measure and maximize our management and performance toward reaching our goals. It is our intent that this report will help to improve communications about the programs and services provided to both the City Council and the community.

Please feel free to contact the Public Affairs Department with any questions.

## MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

### Police

- The department's Bulldog Task Force has made more than 1,100 felony arrests of validated Bulldog gang members and associates since inception in November 2006.

## WEEKLY NEWS

### **KEY RESULT AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY**

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### Fire

- Congratulations to Captain Brian Price for his selection as Firefighter of the Year by the Exchange Club of Fresno. Captain Price was honored during the Club's luncheon on Thursday, February 15, 2007. He has been a member of the Fire Department since 2002.
- From February 9 through February 15 at 1430 hours, fire crews responded to approximately 565 incidents.

## **KEY RESULT AREA: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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### **Economic Development**

#### **"Whaduya Mean Policy, I'm Makin' a Movie Here!"**

- Long before the Director screams, "ACTION," and the cameras start rolling, tires start screeching or guns start blazing...the Film Commissioner and the Location Manager have had several face-to-face and many more phone-to-phone meetings to iron out all the potential problems of "on location" film production. And the City of Fresno's new Film and Entertainment Commissioner, Ray Arthur, is right in the middle of creating those policies for California's sixth largest city.

Meeting with almost a dozen City departments in the past two weeks, Arthur is crossing the "T"s and dotting the "I"s on a new film permitting policy that will streamline future film production in Fresno, create a higher level of safety for all parties concerned, and potentially create some additional incentives for Hollywood to do more business in the City.

## **KEY RESULT AREA: CUSTOMER SERVICE**

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### **Parks, Recreation and Community Service (PRCS)**

- The PRCS Senior citizen program has been partnering with outside agencies to increase the number of inter-generational program offerings and has successfully partnered with Fresno High School to coordinate a Senior/Student fashion show at the end of March. The connection has proven to be very positive and the Fresno High Marketing Academy has invited 10 Seniors to be their guests at a Valentine lunch this week. The Seniors appeared to have an amazing time and PRCS received excellent photo coverage from the Fresno Bee.
- The Hinton Community Center AT&T Fresno Connect computer lab is now being used by the VITA program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) which does free income tax help for qualified individuals. This is co-sponsored by City of Fresno.

### **Public Utilities**

#### **Utility Rates are the Subject of *City in Action* Interview**

- Utility Commission Chairman, John Hutson, and Department of Public Utilities Director, Rene Ramirez, were interviewed about utility rates by Jackie Ryle for the television show, *City in Action*.

### **Airports**

#### **World Ag Expo Represented at FYI**

- Representatives with the 2007 World Ag Expo were staged at Fresno Yosemite International Airport to assist arriving attendees with conference and visitor information. The Expo is the world's largest agricultural exposition with over 100,000 attendees. Many of the Expo exhibitors and attendees, from all over the world, arrive

via Fresno Yosemite International Airport experiencing their connection with the Valley through Fresno.

## **Public Works**

### **Public Works Median Island Team performed the following:**

Cleaned 2.4 Million Sq Ft. which equates to 55 acres.

Sprayed 250 thousand Sq Ft.

A total of 170 hours in irrigation repairs.

### **Street Sign:**

Responded to 25 citizens' request, 8 requests from city departments, 2 Council requests and 11 after-hour emergencies.

Maintained 1163 traffic signs.

Painted 1200 linear feet of curb markings, 6 sets of traffic legends

Installed 4450 raised reflective pavement markers.

### **Street Tree:**

Completed trimming City trees for Geo Base # 2565. (Tulare/Belmont, Minnewawa/Clovis)

Performed root pruning projects for:

(a) NNLB # 27

(b) Council work in District 1

(c) Tree damaged Concrete repair in District 4

Responded to 16 emergency calls

Performed root pruning in District 4 Tree damage area, NNLB # 27

Planted 6 trees in Calwa

### **Street Concrete Repairs:**

Crews are continuing in repairing damaged Curbs/Gutter & Sidewalks damaged by city trees (144 cubic yards of concrete)

Repaired 22 tree wells on Olive Ave, in the Tower District.

John Louie patched and highlighted 60 sidewalk raises and responded to 15 trip and falls.

Poured 230 cubic yards of concrete in NNLB/N27.

Re-opened bus stop at M/Ventura that was closed during the concrete repair process.

Repaired tree damaged sidewalk, curb and gutter in the 3800 block of North Hughes Ave.

Continuing work in District 4 - pouring approximately 243 cubic yards of concrete

District 1 - poured 27 cubic yards

Will start up the (WCR) Wheel chair ramp program again next week

Highlighted 60 sidewalk raises

## **Planning and Development**

### **Code Enforcement**

- Recently the code enforcement division was called by a concerned citizen about a pile of junk and rubbish that was left at the curb for Solid Waste. The report was a bit different because the Reporting Party had indicated that the pile had ammunition in it and that local children were riffling through it and bringing it home. The department responded immediately and made contact with the owner. Although no ammunition was located, the pile contained broken glass and boards with exposed nails. Staff stayed at the scene until the owner arrived and removed the hazards. Solid Waste arrived the next day and hauled away the pile.